(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of Ship-breaking Yard at Haldia

@3193. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal for setting up of a ship-breaking yard at Haldia in public sector or joint sector;

(b) whether of late there has been any discussion in this regard between Surface Transport Minister and the Minister of Transport of West Bengal; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the ship breaking capacity in India is much less than what is needed and a considerable amount of work for the country in this respect is done in foreign countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal before Government for setting up a ship breaking yard at Haldia in the public sector or joint sector.

(c) The quantity of ships broken during the present year is expected to be about one million tonnes which is substantially higher than the quantity broken last year. Quantity or ships broken in India is currently among the highest in the world.

Perspective Plan for Steel Sector

3194. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 2516 given in the Rajya Sabha on the July 31, 1992 and state :

(a) whether the report of the Task Force set up for preparing an action plan for the growth of Indian Iron and Steel Industries over the next 20 years has since been received by Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by it and Government's decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report is under consideration of Government.

Revamping of Ferro-Alloy Units

3195. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA :
SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to the International Conference on developments in ferro-alloy production;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the conference suggested revamping of existing ferro-alloy units and also that instead of exporting ores and minerals, high valued ferro-alloys be produced in the country to earn foreign exchange;

(c) if so, what are the other suggestions made in the conference;

(d) whether all the suggestions made in the conference have been considered by Government; and

(e) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) While Government's policy is to encourage export of value added products like ferro alloys instead of export of ores like manganese and chrome, however, no communication has as yet been received by the Government regarding the suggestions made in the said Conference. From the press report on the Conference, as well as the Draft Report of the Technology Evaluation and Norms Study in ferro alloy industry published by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology, it is understood that most of the Indian Ferro Alloy plants do not incorporate latest technologies and there exists scope for revamping these plants so as to improve the plant perfor-

@Previously Unstarred Question 1846, transferred from 10th March, 1993.